

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A monocellular or multicellular microorganism for the biotechnological production of riboflavin, which exhibits an activity of an NAD(P)H-forming enzyme which is higher than that of a wild type of the species *Ashbya gossypii* ATCC 10895.
2. (currently amended) A ~~monocellular or multicellular microorganism as claimed in claim 1, which process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the microorganism~~ exhibits an elevated isocitrate dehydrogenase activity.
3. (currently amended) A ~~monocellular or multicellular microorganism as claimed in claim 1, which process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the microorganism~~ is a fungus.
4. (currently amended) A ~~monocellular or multicellular microorganism as claimed in claim 1, which process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the microorganism~~ is a fungus from the genus *Ashbya*.
5. (currently amended) A ~~monocellular or multicellular microorganism as claimed in claim 1, which process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the microorganism~~ is a fungus from the genus *Ashbya gossypii*.
6. (original) An isocitrate dehydrogenase gene having a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence given in Fig. 11 (SEQ ID No.2) and its allelic variations.
7. (original) An isocitrate dehydrogenase gene as claimed in claim 6 having the nucleotide sequence 1 to 1262 as depicted in Fig. 11 (SEQ ID No.1).
8. (previously presented) An isocitrate dehydrogenase gene as claimed in claim 6

having an upstream promoter which possesses the nucleotide sequence from - 661 to -1 as depicted in Fig. 11 (SEQ ID No.1).

9. (previously presented) A gene structure which contains an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene as claimed in claim 6 and also regulatory sequences which are operatively linked to this gene.
10. (previously presented) A vector which contains an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene as claimed in claim 6 or a gene structure which contains an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene.
11. (currently amended) A ~~genetically altered microorganism for the biotechnological production of riboflavin, harboring, process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the~~ microorganism harbors in replicatable form, an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene ~~as claimed in claim 6 having a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence given in Fig. 11 (SEQ ID No.2) or an allelic variation~~ which is more strongly expressed than in the corresponding microorganism which is not genetically altered and/or whose copy number is increased.
12. (currently amended) A ~~genetically altered microorganism as claimed in claim 11 which process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the microorganism~~ harbors a gene structure which contains an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene having a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence given in Fig. 11 (SEQ ID No.2) or an allelic variation or a vector which contains such an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene.
13. (currently amended) A ~~genetically altered microorganism as claimed in claim 11 which process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the microorganism~~ harbors an

isocitrate dehydrogenase gene which exhibits a catalytic activity which is increased, and/or an ability to be inhibited by inhibitors which is decreased, as compared with that of the corresponding microorganism which is not genetically altered.

14. (currently amended) A process for the biotechnological production of riboflavin, which comprises using a microorganism ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ which exhibits an activity of an NAD(P)H-forming enzyme which is higher than that of a wild type of the species Ashbya gossypii ATCC 10895.
15. (currently amended) A process ~~for preparing a riboflavin-producing monocellular or multicellular organism as claimed in claim 14, which comprises further comprising~~ using recombinant methods to increase the activity of an NAD(P)H-forming enzyme of the microorganism in comparison to that of a wild type of the species Ashbya gossypii ATCC 10895.
16. (original) A process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the increase in enzyme activity is achieved by replacing the promoter and/or increasing the gene copy number.
17. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the enzyme activity is increased as a result of the catalytic activity of the isocitrate dehydrogenase being increased and/or the ability of the isocitrate dehydrogenase to be inhibited by inhibitors being decreased.
18. (canceled)
19. (previously presented) A process for preparing a microorganism for the biotechnological production of riboflavin, said process comprising using the

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isocitrate dehydrogenase gene as claimed in claim 6.

20. (previously presented) A process for preparing a microorganism for the biotechnological production of riboflavin, said process comprising using a gene structure or vector which contains an isocitrate dehydrogenase gene as claimed in claim 6.